

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. All claims are under examination.

The rejection under 35 USC 112 is traversed but is believed to have been overcome by the amendments now made.

The Examiner is thanked for suggesting changes that would result in allowance. It is believed that all such changes have now been made and that no other changes are required.

CONCLUSION

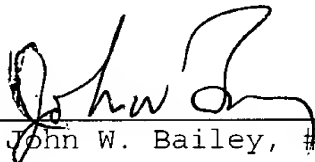
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact David R. Murphy (Reg. No. 22,751) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.


Appl. No. 09/846,259

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
John W. Bailey, #32,881


JWB/DRM/enm
0425-0819P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000